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Nova Trgovina, No 2, 1950.

REPORT ON 1949 YUGOSLAVIA CONSUMER-GOODS PLAN

Commercial Supply

In his speech at the Eighth Regular Session of the People's Assembly Osman Karabegovic, Minister of Commerce and Supply of the Federal government, stated that the 1949 plan for the turnover of goods was completed by 104.7 percent. Within this plan, the plan for the guaranteed supply was completed by 102.4 percent, for commerce according to tied prices by 100.8 percent, and for the free market by 106.9 percent.

While the actual turnover of goods in 1948 was 87,437,640,000 dinars, the actual 1949 turnover of goods was 98,119,833,000 dinars, or 12.2 percent more. The 1948 guaranteed supply amounted to 25,945,496,000 dinars, while the 1949 guaranteed supply amounted to 30,575,214,000 dinars or 17.8 percent more. The 1948 commerce according to tied prices amount to 10,141,550,000 dinars, while in 1949 it amounted to 10,903,204,000 dinars, or 7.5 percent more. Sale on the free market in 1948 amounted to 51,350,594,000 dinars, and in 1949 it amounted to 56,080,670,000 dinars, or 9.2 percent more.

The 1949 increase, as compared to 1948, in the guaranteed supply of textiles and footwear was 32 percent. A new consumer category, IR-la with 240 points, has been instituted. The IR-l category was allotted 210 instead of 160 points, the IR-2, 180 instead of 140 points, the IG, 120 instead of 90 points, the ID-1, 90 instead of 60 points, and the ID-2, 110 instead of 80 points.

The amount of sugar for all consumer categories increased from 100 to 450 grams per capita. Forest workers were given 3-5 additional kilograms of corn. We

In 1949, soap was included among the guaranteed supply items. Apprentices of the R-2 and R-3 category were given R-1 ration cards. For industrial items they were given IR-1 cards with 210 points, while in 1948 they had received only 180 points.

Apprentices on the job for the first time were given IR-1 cards with 240 points.

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The retail net was provided with the following amounts of textiles for distribution under the guaranteed supply: 8,526,690,000 dinars' worth in 1948 and 12,134,836,000 dinars' worth, or 42 percent more, in 1949; which amounted to 74,145,000 square meters in 1948 and 86,811,000 square meters in 1949. In 1948, the retail net was supplied with 2,500,000 pairs of shoes and in 1949 with 6,165,000 pairs of shoes.

In 1949, holders of IR-1 cards were entitled to 19.3 meters of fabric, as compared with 13.4 meters in 1948; 0.29 kilograms of hosiery in 1949 and 0.17 kilograms in 1948, 2.27 pairs of socks in 1949 and 2.57 in 1948; and 1.15 pairs of shoes in 1949 and 1.13 pairs in 1948.

In 1948, only holders of IR-1 cards were allowed to buy shoes with the control coupon; in 1949, all consumers had that right.

The 1949 guaranteed-supply plan was realized for grain by 102 percent, for sugar by 108 percent, for fats by 93 percent, and for meat by 76 percent. In comparison with 1948, consumers were allowed 43 percent more sugar, 30 percent more fats, 60 percent more meat, and 14 percent more grain in 1949.

In the case of grain, the economic years of 1947-48 and 1948-49 were compared. Expressed in quantities of food items, the situation was as follows: grain -- 73,549 carloads in 1947-48 and 84,060 carloads in 1948-49; sugar -- 5,736 carloads in 1948 and 8,217 carloads in 1949, an increase of 2,481 carloads; fats -- 4,445 carloads in 1948 and 5,764 carloads in 1949, an increase of 1,319 carloads; and meat -- 5,635 carloads in 1948 and 9,175 carloads in 1949, an increase of 3,540 carloads.

In 1949, the government planned to admit 5,317,980 consumers into the guaranteed-supply system. In March 1949, the number of such consumers was determined to be 5,078,000. In September 1949, the government planned for 5,111,261 of such consumers on the basis of the manpower plan.

The People's Republics were authorized to issue 103.6 percent of the planned number of ration cards, but actually 114.9 percent of the allotted cards were issued. Every month an average of 210,782 cards above the allotted number were issued. This excess issuance of cards caused an excess consumption of 2,872 carloads of grain, 982 carloads of sugar, and 487 carloads of fats.

The plan for consumers of textiles and footwear between April and December 1949, according to the guaranteed supply allowed for 5,613,108 consumers. During that period, the government issued 5,873,771 cards, or 4.8 percent more than the plan called for. Instead of 778,334,000 points, 829,526,000 points, or 6 percent above the plan, were issued. During three quarters of 1949, 101,165,000 more points were issued than were issued altogether in 1948. Because the republics exceeded the plan for consumers of textiles by 270,563 consumers, which amounts to 51,172,000 points and 620 million dinars' worth of goods, the regular supply of industrial goods to consumers was that much less and the stock of goods in the retail net was that much smaller than the plan.

Guaranteed-supply ration cards are also issued to members of farm families and to those who own land and are able to supply themselves from their own sources. Thus, 28 percent of the total number of consumers, or 1,730,170 consumers who are members of 626,376 farm families and who own over 0.5 hectares of land, receive food rations according to the guaranteed supply. Of that number, 587,000 consumers are workers. According to the 1949 plan, these farm family consumers received, at the lower prices, 7,439,737,000 dinars' worth of goods, or 26.3 percent of the total goods reserve of the guaranteed supply.

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Ration cards are also distributed to consumers who own over 2 hectares of land. This is shown by the following data: Farm families with 2 to 5 hectares included 470,244 consumers, and those with over 5 hectares included 131,064 consumers.

The following table shows how grain was distributed in 1949 to landed consumers eligible for the guaranteed supply:

Oblast	No of Consumers With 2 to 5 Ha of Land	No of Consumers With Over 5 Ha of Land
Belgrade	16,728	5,036
Kragujevac	23,763	5,840
The Vojvodina	22,121	2,908
Osijek	10,393	2,259
Banjaluka	37,800	13,556
Ljubljana	17,971	6,301

All the consumers indicated in the above table were eligible for the guaranteed supply, but obtained food from their own property.

Fats were also distributed to farm families with over 0.5 hectares of land who owned the following number of pigs.

People's Republic	From 3 to 5 Pigs	Over 6 Pigs		
Serbia	57,083 consumers	17,434 consumers		
Croatia	24,183 "	5,748 "		
Slovenia	20,593 "	2,616 "		
Rosnia and Herzegovina	25,331 "	8,126 "		

Members of farm families with a yearly income of over 30,000 dinars, according to the lower special prices, from agricultural production were also included in the guaranteed-supply program. In August 1949, 118,263 consumers of the R category and 112,758 consumers of the G and D categories (a total of 231,021 consumers) with an income of 30,000 to 50,000 dinars from the sale of agricultural products were included in the guaranteed-supply program, and 67,632 consumers with R cards and 41,818 consumers with G and D cards with a yearly income of over 50,000 dinars from the sale of agricultural products were also included in the program.

The distribution of food to children in 1949 improved greatly. The average monthly sugar supply for the D-3 category was increased from 800 to 1,200 grams and for the D-1 and D-2 categories from 750 to 1,200 grams.

The average yearly supply of soap for children amounted to 2,400 grams for the D-2 and D-3 categories and to 3,000 grams for the D-1 category.

The kitchens of the International Children's Fund fed daily lunches to 350,000 grammar school children. In 1949, 252 carloads of grain and 67 carloads of sugar from the federal reserves were supplied to these kitchens. In 1949, 336 children's dairy restaurants were opended; of these 99 were in Serbia, 94 in Croatia, 56 in Slovenia, 53 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 26 in Macedonia, and 8 in Montenegro. The government distributed 336 carloads of wheat, 50 carloads of sugar, and 5.8 carloads of rice from the federal reserves to these restaurants.

Thus far, 55 special children's stores for the sale of textiles, footwear, and other children's needs have been opened in Yugoslavia.

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To children and youth summer resorts, the government distributed 16 carloads of grain, 10 carloads of sugar, 14 carloads of rice, 10 carloads of flour, and 6.4 carloads of fats.

In 51 large cities and industrial centers with about 2 million consumers, the government sold 40,675 carloads of various vegetables and 11,355 carloads of truit between January and the end of November 1949. Between July and November 1948, the government sold 24,646 carloads of various vegetables and 8,230 carloads of various fruit in these cities. In 1949, it sold 32,979 carloads of various vegetables and 9,960 carloads of various fruit. This means that, in 1949, 33 percent more vegetables and 21 percent more fruit were sold than in 1948.

In 1948, the average amount sold daily to each consumer was 810 grams of various kinds of vegetables and 280 grams of various kinds of fruit, while in 1949, the average was 1,050 grams of various vegetables and 350 grams of various fruit per consumer.

The sale of milk in 1949 was smaller than in 1948. Between July and November 1949, only 86 percent as much milk was sold in Serbia, 93 percent as much in Croatia, and 97 percent as much in Slovenia as during the same period in 1948.

The goods turnover according to tied prices was 7.5 percent greater in 1949 than in 1948. This shows an improvement in the supplying of rural areas.

In 1949, farm-work cooperatives could sell all their agricultural products according to tied prices without limitation and were permitted to receive 10,400 dinars per family in coupons during one year for the purchase of industrial goods for general consumption.

Farm-work cooperatives are supplied on a priority basis through a net of 2,860 special stores. Between July and the end of October 1949, the average sale per family was about 1,100 dinars' worth of goods per individual household, and about 2,050 dinar's worth of goods per family belonging to a farm-work cooperative.

The sale of some items per family during the above period was as follows.

	Individual Agricultural Households (dinars)	Families Belonging to Farm-Work Cooperatives (dinars)
Textiles	466	1,303
Footwear	174	234
Sugar	39	93

Since the liquidation of the private sector in retail business in 1948, the commercial net of the socialist sector has been growing constantly, so that in 1949 there were 37,989 stores in Yugoslavia, an increase of 6.3 percent as compared to 1948.

At the end of 1949, the private sector owned only 1.6 percent of the total number of stores, and accounted for only 0.41 percent of the total turnover. It consisted mainly of bakers, butchers, and the like.

During 1950, 82 lower commercial schools for training personnel employed in commerce, with 3,233 students, and 27 commercial schools for training intermediate commercial personnel, with 1,086 students, were established in Yugoslavia. Until 1949, Yugoslavia had 33 schools for commercial apprentices. In the beginning of the 1949 school year, 19 additional schools were established, so that the total present enrollment in commercial schools is 5,333 students.

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During 1948 and 1949, 42,324 workers, mainly from rural districts, were hired in commerce. Of this number, 32,569 persons attended commercial courses in 1948 and 10,913 persons in 1949.

Crop Purchase

In his speech at the Eighth Regular Session of the People's Assembly, Jakov Blazevic, Minister of Federal Procurement, stated that 16 percent more grain was bought in 1948 than in 1947 and in 1949, 48 percent more. In 1948, 40 percent more bread grains were bought than in 1947 and in 1949, 65 percent more.

The purchase of fat hogs from both sectors in 1949 was 440 percent greater than in 1948, the purchase of livestock in 1949 was 35 percent greater than in 1948, and the crop purchase of potatoes was 71 percent greater in 1948 than in 1947 and in 1949, 214 percent greater.

In 1949, 360 percent more fat hogs were bought from the private sector than in 1948, and from the socialist sector over 500 percent more. The purchase of about 500,000 unfattened hogs is not included in the above numbers.

In 1949, the socialist sector delivered about 20 percent of the thite grains and about 50 percent of all the fat hogs purchased under the crop-purchase program.

In 1949, the working people of Yugoslavia received, at the lower prices, about 3,200 carloads of lard, about 35,000 carloads of potatoes, and over 15,000 carloads of meat. During the 1949 - 1950 economic year, 100,000 carloads of bread grains were distributed to them at the lower prices.

In one of the most fertile srez, a wealthy household is required to deliver over 232 metric centners of grain, for which it receives 8,000 dinars at tied prices (one fifth of the amount in 1948), while small households receive 6,000 dinars at tied prices for the amounts of grain they deliver. This means that households of the highest category receive somewhat over 200 dinars at tied prices per jutro and small households over 1,500 dinars at tied prices per jutro.

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